



Congressman Ted Poe
2nd District of Texas



COSPONSORED LEGISLATION

110th Congress

Updated February 29, 2008

Military & Veterans

H.R. 3229, National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center Commemorative Coin Act – Directs the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue \$1 coins emblematic of the courage, pride, sacrifice, sense of duty, and history of the U.S. Infantry, in commemoration of the legacy of the U.S. Army Infantry and the establishment of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center. Requires a \$10 surcharge per coin, and payment of all surcharges received to the National Infantry Foundation to establish an endowment to support the maintenance of the National Infantry Museum and Soldier Center.

- Sponsor: Rep. Westmoreland, Lynn A. (R-GA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Domestic and International Monetary Policy, Trade, and Technology.

H.Res. 750 - Recognizing the noble service of the 147th Fighter Wing on their 90th anniversary.

- Sponsor: Rep. Lampson, Nick (D-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.Res. 111 - Establishes a select committee on POW and MIA affairs to investigate unresolved matter relating to personnel unaccounted for in the Vietnam-era, Korean conflict, WWII, Cold War, and Gulf War.

- Sponsor: Rep. King, Peter T. (R-NY)
- Status: House Committee on Rules

H.Res. 680 - Condemns the actions of September 7, 2007, resulting in damage to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial.

- Sponsor: Rep. Carter, John R. (R-TX)
- Status: Passed House 418 - 0 (Roll no. 989)

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H.Res. 644 - Reaffirms the commitment of the House of Representatives to respecting the independent and professional reputation of General David H. Petraeus and all members of the United States Armed Forces serving in good standing in the defense of the United States.

- Sponsor: Rep. Boehner, John A. (R-OH)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.Con.Res. 176 - Creates a commemorative stamp honoring our nation's more than 3 million disabled veterans.

- Sponsor: Rep. Buchanan, Vern (R-FL)
- Status: House Committee on Oversight & Government Reform

H.R. 3007 - Provides an exception to the 60-day limit on Medicare reciprocal billing arrangements between two physicians during the period in which one of the physicians is ordered to active duty as a member of a reserve component of the Armed Forces.

- Sponsor: Rep. Thompson, Mike (D-CA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Health

H.R. 2434, Veterans' Right to Know Act - Requires the VA to update veterans on the status of their claims every 60 days until that claim is "closed or satisfied."

- Sponsor: Rep. Drake, Thelma D. (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

H.R. 2303, Perpetual Purple Heart Stamp Act - Recognizes the Purple Heart as a symbol of freedom like the American Flag and honors veterans by creating a Purple Heart Forever Stamp. It will have no denomination and will remain valid regardless of changes in postal rates.

- Sponsor: Rep. King, Peter T. (R-NY)
- Status: House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

H.R. 2682, Military Spouses Employment Act of 2007 – Makes the employers of spouses of military personnel eligible for the work opportunity credit. The work opportunity credit was originally passed to induce employers to hire employees receiving benefits under the Temporary Assistance to Needy Families (TANF) program and other groups thought to experience employment problems regardless of general economic conditions. This bill seeks to provide employers with an incentive to hire those who are military spouses.

- Sponsor: Rep. Carter, John R. (R-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 23, Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act of 2007

- Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs to pay a monthly benefit of \$1,000 to certain honorably-discharged veterans of the U.S. Merchant Marine who served between December 7, 1941, and December 31, 1946 (or to their survivors). Includes service in the Army Transport Service and the Naval Transport Service. Exempts from taxation benefits paid under this Act.

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- Sponsor: Rep. Filner, Bob (D-CA)
- Status: Passed House, Senate Committee on Veterans' Affairs

H.Res. 391 - Recognizes the employees of Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport, the North Texas Commission, USO, and the people and businesses of North Texas for their dedication to the "Welcome Home a Hero" program.

- Sponsor: Rep. Sessions (R-TX)
- Status: Passed House

H.R. 551, Home Ownership for America's Veterans Act of 2007 - Would make Qualified Veterans Mortgage Bonds (that are tax-exempt) available to most veterans in the five states that offer low interest rate home loans to veterans (Alaska, Oregon, Wisconsin, California, and Texas). HR 4297 (passed in 2005) eliminated an old restriction (that limited the beneficiaries of the QVMB program to only veterans entering the armed forces prior to 1/1/1977) for only Alaska, Oregon, and Wisconsin. This bill would take care of TX and CA.

- Sponsor: Rep. Davis, Susan (D-CA)
- Status: House Committee on Ways and Means

H.R. 1481, The Military Access to Housing Act - Currently, the tax code treats the "basic allowance for housing" for military personnel who live off their post or base as "income," thereby disqualifying some military families from living in private developments financed with a Low-Income Housing Tax Credit (LIHTC). (Many military families find themselves in this situation when relocating due to BRAC). This bill would amend the Internal Revenue Code to exclude military basic housing allowances from income for purposes of establishing eligibility for housing in qualified residential rental projects.

- Sponsor: Rep. Moran, Jerry (R-KA)
- Status: House Committee on Ways and Means

H.Con.Res. 48 - Recognizes the efforts and contributions of the members of the Monuments, Fine Arts, and Archives program under the Civil Affairs and Military Government Sections of the United States Armed Forces during and following WWII who were responsible for the preservation, protection, and restitution of artistic and cultural treasures in countries occupied by the Allied armies.

- Sponsor: Rep. Granger, Kay (R-TX)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.Res. 313 - Recognizes and commends Volunteers of Our Military Kids, Inc. for awarding grants to over 1,100 school-aged children of deployed and severely injured National Guard and Reserve personnel.

- Sponsor: Rep. Ortiz, Solomon P. (D-TX)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.R. 1330 – Allows for an extension up to ten years from service in a Guard or Reserve capacity to take advantage of education assistance benefits (i.e. G.I. Bill).

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- Sponsor: Rep. Carney, Christopher P. (D-PA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 1062, Security and Victory in Iraq Act of 2007 - Directs the President every 30 days to certify to the appropriate congressional committees the extent to which the government of Iraq is cooperating with U.S. stability efforts in Iraq and has made demonstrable progress toward achieving stability and security for its people, denying terrorists a sanctuary in Iraq, and ensuring equal access to resources.

- Sponsor: Rep. Boehner, John (R-OH)
- Status: House Committee on Rules

H.R. 869 – Does not allow the president to employ the Armed Forces to restore public order and enforce the law in major public emergencies. Instead, it restores previous authority of the President to use the Armed Forces to suppress situations which interfere with state or federal law.

- Sponsor: Rep. Davis, Tom (R-VA)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.R. 826, State Defense Force Improvement Act - Recognizes state defense forces as integral military components of the homeland security effort of the United States, while reaffirming that such forces remain entirely state regulated, organized, and equipped, and recognizing that they will be used for homeland security purposes exclusively at the local level under state law. Leaves participation by a state defense force in a DOD DHS training program to state discretion.

- Sponsor: Rep. Wilson, Joe (R-SC)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 718, National Guard Empowerment Act of 2007 – Adds the Chief of the National Guard Bureau as a member on the Joint Chiefs of Staff (JCS) and raises the grade of the Chief from lieutenant general to general.

- Sponsor: Rep. Davis, Tom (R-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 692, Army Specialist Joseph P. Micks Federal Flag Code Amendment Act of 2007 - Allows a governor of a state, territory, or possession of the United States to proclaim that the national flag be flown at half-staff upon the death of a member of the Armed Forces from the governor's state, territory, or possession who dies while serving on active duty.

- Sponsor: Rep. Stupak, Bart (D-MI)
- Status: Public Law 110-41

H.R. 653, Joseph I. Hoover Combat Veteran Affidavit Act of 2007 - Directs the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, for purposes of eligibility for veterans' disability compensation and benefits, to accept the sworn affidavit of a veteran who served on or before July 27, 1953, as proof of a service connection of a disease or injury alleged to have been incurred in or aggravated by such service, if there is no clear and convincing

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evidence to the contrary. NOTE: A fire in a St. Louis VA facility burned most records prior to this date.

- Sponsor: Rep. Reynolds, Thomas M. (R-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

H.R. 652, Veterans Eagle Parks Pass Act - Makes the National Parks and Federal Recreational Lands Pass available at a discount to certain veterans.

- Sponsor: Rep. Reynolds, Thomas M. (R-NY)
- Status: Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands

H.R. 511 - Pledges the faithful support of Congress to members of the United States Armed Forces serving in harm's way and states that Congress will not cut off or restrict funding for units and members of the Armed Forces that the Commander in Chief has deployed in support of Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

- Sponsor: Rep. Johnson, Sam (R-TX)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.Res. 147 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the United States is committed to victory in the global War on Terror and committed to victory on that battlefield in the War on Terror that is Iraq.

- Sponsor: Rep. King, Steve (R-IA)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.Res. 265 - Honoring military children during "National Month of the Military Child".

- Sponsor: Rep. Moran, James P. (D-VA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 22 – Would provide additional funding for military construction, family housing, and base realignment and closure functions to the military in FY07 up to the amount authorized.

- Sponsor: Rep. Cole, Tom (R-OK)
- Status: House Committee on Appropriations

H.R. 140 – Requires the TRICARE Program (a Department of Defense managed health care program) to reimburse institutional providers of health care services in an identical reimbursement provided under Medicare.

- Sponsor: Rep. Green, Gene (D-TX)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 156 – Amends veterans' benefit provisions to provide for the payment of dependency and indemnity compensation to the survivors of veterans rated totally disabled at the time of death who were former prisoners of war (currently, to the survivors of such veterans who died after September 30, 1999).

- Sponsor: Rep. Holden, Tim (D-PA)
- Status: Subcommittee on Disability Assistance and Memorial Affairs

H.R. 346 – Re-designates the Department of the Navy as the Department of the Navy and Marine Corps.

- Sponsor: Rep. Jones, Walter (R-NC)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.R. 418 – Allows tax free rollovers of military death gratuities to Roth individual retirement accounts, health savings and Archer medical savings accounts, and Coverdell education savings accounts.

- Sponsor: Rep. Jones, Walter B., Jr. (R-NC)
- Status: House Committee on Ways and Means

H.Con.Res. 60 – Recognizes the importance of veterans to the United States. Expresses support for the goals of Veterans Educate Today's Students (VETS) Day (programs that educate children about the service and sacrifices of veterans and their families).

- Sponsor: Rep. Pallone, Frank, Jr. (D-NJ)
- Status: Passed House

H.Res. 783 - Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives that the Department of Veterans Affairs National Cemetery Administration employees, volunteers, and veterans' service organizations that perform funeral honors and memorial honor details should be permitted to recite the 13 steps to fold an American flag (known as the "13-fold recital") at any national cemetery if requested by the family of the deceased.

- Sponsor: Rep. LaTourette, Steven C. (R-OH)
- Status: House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

H.Res. 784 - Recognizing and honoring, in community post offices, the service of men and women of the U.S. Armed Forces deployed overseas.

- Sponsor: Rep. McCarthy, Kevin (R-CA)
- Status: House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform

H.Res. 786 - Amending the Rules of the House of Representatives to require that general appropriations for military construction and veterans' affairs be considered as stand-alone measures.

- Sponsor: Rep. Gingrey, Phil (R-GA)
- Status: House Committee on Rules

H.R. 2495, Disabled Veterans Commissary and Exchange Store Benefits Act - This measure would allow all disabled veterans to access military commissaries and exchange stores, not just those rated at 100% disability. On average that's a savings of 30% of a veteran's grocery bill.

- Sponsor: Rep. Burton, Dan (R-IN)
- Status: Subcommittee on Military Personnel

H.R. 3793, Veterans Guaranteed Bonus Act of 2007 - Requires the Secretary of Defense to continue to pay to a member of the Armed Forces who is retired or separated from the Armed Forces due to a combat-related injury certain bonuses that the member

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was entitled to before the retirement or separation and would continue to be entitled to if the member was not retired or separated.

- Sponsor: Rep. Altmire, Jason (D-PA)
- Status: Passed House 405 - 0 (Roll no. 1176)

H.R. 4104, Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2008 - Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes.

- Sponsor: Rep. Wicker, Roger F. (R-MS)
- Status: Committee on Appropriations and Committee on the Budget

H.Res. 958 - Reaffirming the commitment of the House of Representatives to the patriotic and professional men and women serving in the United States Marine Corps in defense of the United States.

- Sponsor: Rep. Kline, John (R-MN)
- Status: House Committee on Armed Services

H.R.5148, Combat Veterans Debt Elimination Act of 2008

- Sponsor: Rep. Neugebauer, Randy (R-TX)
- Status: House Committee on Veterans' Affairs

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